

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION
11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
and
NOTICE OF FILING OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS
Concerning

Amendments to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento River and San
Joaquin River Basins For The Control of Mercury in Cache Creek, Bear Creek,
Sulphur Creek, and Harley Gulch
Colusa, Lake, and Yolo Counties

The Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Regional Board) will hold a public hearing to consider adoption of the proposed amendments to the Basin Plan for the control of mercury in Cache Creek, Bear Creek, Sulphur Creek, and Harley Gulch located in Colusa, Lake, and Yolo Counties. As part of amending the Basin Plan, the Regional Board will consider certification of the draft "functionally equivalent" environmental documents prepared pursuant to Section 21080.5 of the Public Resources Code and Title 23 California Code of Regulations sections 3775-3782. After hearing testimony, the Board may choose to act on the proposals or the Board may choose to close the hearings and vote on proposals at the next meeting tentatively scheduled in August 2005. The public hearing is scheduled to occur at the Regional Board's regular June meeting at the time and location noted below:

Date: 23 and 24 June 2005 (Contact staff 2 weeks in advance for date)
Time: 8:30 am
Place: Regional Water Quality Control Board office
11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200, Rancho Cordova, CA

On 18 March 2005, the Regional Board conducted a workshop to receive comments from the public on issues that should be considered in amending the Basin Plan. Staff has prepared responses for all comments received in writing and at the workshop.

Staff is proposing for Regional Board consideration methylmercury objectives for fish tissue and an implementation plan to reduce mercury and methylmercury loads in the Cache Creek watershed. Draft environmental documents have been prepared for the proposed amendments, which conclude that the proposals will have no significant adverse effects on the environment.

The draft staff report for the proposed amendments, which includes the environmental documentation required under CEQA, may be obtained by contacting Janis Cooke at (916) 464-4672, jcooke@waterboards.ca.gov. The draft staff report will also be available for downloading in PDF format at <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/programs/tmdl/Cache-SulphurCreek/index.html>.

In order to be included in the written response to comments that is a part of the final administrative record, written comments should be submitted by **8 June 2005** to Janis Cooke, Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, 11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670. At the hearing, staff will summarize the written comments and present a final recommendation for Regional Board consideration. Interested persons will be provided the opportunity to present oral comments to the Regional Board at the hearing, and are expected to orally summarize their written submittals. Oral testimony will be limited in time by the Board Chair.

The hearing facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Ms. Janice Tanaka at (916) 464-4839 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

Please bring the above information to the attention of anyone you know who would be interested in this matter.

/s/

Kenneth D. Landau, Assistant Executive Officer

2 May 2005